

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00  
AID-05 PC-01 AGRE-00 OMB-01 /075 W  
-----112707 251338Z /43

O R 241658Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2014  
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA  
AMEMBASSY KIGALI  
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE  
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN  
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI  
AMEMBASSY BANGUI  
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU  
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO  
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS  
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT  
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR  
AMEMBASSY BISSAU  
AMEMBASSY PRAIA  
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY LOME

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E.O. 11652: NA  
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TAGS: PORG, PEPR, FR, XA  
SUBJECT: FRANCO-AFRICAN SUMMIT

REF: PARIS 16442

SUMMARY: SECURITY QUESTIONS PREDOMINATED AT SECOND  
DAY OF FRANCO-AFRICAN SUMMIT. COMMUNIQUE DEVOTED

ALMOST ENTIRELY TO ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT MATTERS  
THEREFORE SEEMED SOMEWHAT INCONGRUOUS BUT IN  
FACT REFLECTED A BASIC CONCERN OF THE CONFERENCE  
PARTICIPANTS. WHILE CONFERENCE AS A WHOLE REACHED  
NO AGREEMENT ON SECURITY COOPERATION, CERTAIN WEST  
AFRICAN LEADERS INCLUDING HOUPHUEU BOIGNY OF THE  
IVORY COAST AND BONGO OF GABON SAID THEY FAVORED  
EXPANSION OF THE EXISTING (THOUGH NOT YET VERY  
ACTIVE) DEFENSE AGREEMENT ASSOCIATED  
WITH THE WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY TO  
INCLUDE CERTAIN CENTRAL AFRICAN STATES. END SUMMARY.

1. THE PREOCCUPATION WITH SECURITY OF THE FRANCO-  
AFRICAN SUMMIT DURING THE FIRST DAY OF THE CONFERENCE  
APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN ALMOST TOTAL DURING THE SECOND.  
THE COMMUNIQUE (SEE NEXT PARA FOR MAIN POINTS) WHICH  
DEALT ALMOST ENTIRELY WITH ECONOMIC SUBJECTS SEEMS  
AS IF IT COULD HAVE COME FROM A DIFFERENT MEETING  
BUT IN FACT REFLECTED A GENERAL CONCERN WITH  
DEVELOPMENT MATTERS. PRESIDENT MOBUTU'S APPEARANCE  
WAS A MAIN FEATURE OF THE AFTERNOON SESSION. HE  
ALSO HAD A BILATERAL MEETING WITH GISCARD AFTER WHICH  
THE ELYSEE REFUSED ALL COMMENT.

2. MAIN POINTS OF COMMUNIQUE (UNOFFICIAL EMBASSY  
TRANSLATION):  
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THE CHIEFS OF STATE, GOVERNMENT AND DELEGATIONS EXAMINED  
THE WORLD ECONOMIC SITUATION AND ITS IMPACT ON THE  
AFRICAN CONTINENT. THEY UNDERLINED THE NECESSITY OF  
SEEING THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE PURSUED AND DEEPENED...  
THE PARTICIPANTS INSISTED ON THE NECESSITY ON THE PART

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O R 241658Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2015  
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
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OF THE MAJOR INDUSTRIAL POWERS OF A MORE SUBSTANTIAL  
PARTICIPATION IN THE MAJOR OPERATIONS OF THE PLANS  
OF AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT. THEY WERE AGREED THAT THE  
NECESSARY MEASURES SHOULD BE TAKEN QUICKLY TO PUT  
INTO EFFECT THE AFRICAN SOLIDARITY FUND. THEY  
RENEWED THE INTEREST WHICH THEY HAVE IN SEEING FRANCE'S  
PARTNERS OF THE WESTERN WORLD -- IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
THE PROPOSAL OF THE FRENCH PRESIDENT -- CONDUCT IN  
COMMON AN EXCEPTIONAL ACTION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF  
AFRICA. IN THIS REGARD THEY WERE PLEASED ABOUT THE

CONSULTATIONS WHICH THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAD UNDERTAKEN WITH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS WITH CERTAIN OF ITS EUROPEAN PARTNERS. THEY NOTED THAT M. GISCARD D'ESTAING WILL SPEAK AGAIN ABOUT THIS QUESTION WITH PRESIDENT CARTER ON MAY 26 AT WASHINGTON. THEY EXCHANGED INFORMATION RELATIVE TO THE ACTION OF REGIONAL AFRICAN ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS. THEY NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THE EVOLUTION OF TIES BETWEEN THE EEC AND THE AFRICAN STATES AND THE CONDITIONS OF APPLICATION OF THE LOME CONVENTION.

AS FOR FRANCO-AFRICAN COOPERATION, AND IN VIEW OF THE DIFFICULTIES OF THE SAHEL COUNTRIES, ONCE AGAIN VICTIMS OF DROUGHT, THE PARTICIPANTS EXPRESSED THEIR GRAND SATISFACTION AT THE DECISION ANNOUNCED BY PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING TO MAKE AN EXCEPTIONAL DONATION TO THE SPECIAL PROGRAM TO COMBAT DROUGHT. THE DONATION WILL BE 60 MILLION FRANCS IN 1978 AND WILL RISE TO 100 MILLION IN 1979.

CONCERNING THE INITIATIVE OF PRESIDENT SENGHOR OF SENEGAL IN FAVOR OF THE CREATION OF A FRAMEWORK LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GROUPING CHIEFS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE FRANCOPHONE COUNTRIES, IT WAS DECIDED TO CREATE UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF SENEGAL A STUDY COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF FIVE EXPERTS REPRESENTING THE MAJOR REGIONAL ENTITIES AND DESIGNATED BY THE PARTICIPATING STATES. FINALLY, THE CHIEFS OF STATE RECALLED WITH FORCE THE RIGHT OF SECURITY WITHIN THEIR FRONTIERS OF ALL AFRICAN STATES WHATEVER THEIR POLITICAL REGIME. THEY EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT A CONCERTATION WITH A VIEW TO ARRIVING AT A CONCRETIZATION OF THEIR SOLIDARITY MIGHT TAKE PLACE QUICKLY.

THE NEXT FRANCO AFRICAN SUMMIT WILL TAKE PLACE IN 1979 IN KIGALI RWANDA.

3. COMMENT: THE INTEREST SHOWN BY THE AFRICAN PARTICIPANTS IN THE PROGRESS OF FRENCH DISCUSSIONS

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-----103975 251337Z /43

O R 241658Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2016

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WITH POTENTIAL DONORS CONCERNING THE GISCARD INITIATIVE  
(SOMETIMES CALLED THE GISCARD FUND) IS REPORTED BY

THE QUAI TO HAVE BEEN VERY INTENSE AND SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN REFLECTED IN THE COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE. REFERENCE TO THE UPCOMING MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT GISCARD AND PRESIDENT CARTER TOGETHER WITH MENTION OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN FRANCE AND CERTAIN EUROPEAN PARTNERS STEPS UP PRESSURE FOR EARLY DECISIONS ON A CONCRETE FOLLOW UP TO THE GISCARD INITIATIVE.

4. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE LAST MEETING A JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE WAS HELD WITH PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING, PRESIDENT BONGO (AS PRESIDENT OF THE OAU) AND HOUPHOUET BOIGNY (AS DEAN OF AFRICAN PRESIDENTS). THE PRESS CONFERENCE DEALT ALMOST ENTIRELY WITH SECURITY MATTERS. HOUPHOUET BOIGNY DECLARED THAT THE COUNTRIES OF THE WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY NOW LINKED BY A DEFENSE ACCORD PLANNED TO MEET WITH THE STATES OF CENTRAL AFRICA WITH A VIEW TO ENLARGING THE DEFENSE PACT. "FOR THIS", HE SAID, "WE NEED THE SUPPORT OF FRANCE. WE HAVE NO COMPLEXES IN THIS REGARD...THERE IS NO REASON WHY FRANCE SHOULD NOT COME TO OUR ASSISTANCE IN THE EVENT OF AGGRESSION." PRESIDENT BONGO, REPEATING THE SAME THEME SAID THAT THE EXISTING WEST AFRICAN GROUPING MIGHT BE ENLARGED TO INCLUDE CERTAIN CENTRAL AFRICAN COUNTRIES SUCH AS "GABON, THE CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE, CHAD, AND -- WHY NOT -- CAMEROUN AND EVENTUALLY ZAIRE." SPEAKING IN HIS TURN GISCARD SAID THAT THE INITIATIVE FOR ORGANIZING THE SECURITY SHOULD BE TAKEN BY THE AFRICAN COUNTRIES. THIS SHOULD LATER BE REINFORCED BY THE MAJOR INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES GIVING NEW AND MAJOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE TO AFRICA. IN REPLY TO A QUESTION ABOUT FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN ZAIRE, GISCARD SAID THAT THE FRENCH LEGIONAIRES WOULD RETURN TO THEIR BASE "AS SOON AS THEY HAVE ACCOMPLISHED THEIR MISSION WHICH IS TO SEARCH FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DISAPPEARED OR TAKEN AWAY AS HOSTAGE."

5. FOLLOWING MEETINGS AT QUAI AND ELYSEE THIS EVENING (MAY 24) AND TOMORROW WE WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL COMMENTARY. HARTMAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Draft Date:** 24 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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